

AMENDMENT NO. _____

Signature of Sponsor

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 0891

House Bill No. 0695

deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-4-203(a), is amended by adding the following language to the beginning of the subsections:

Except as provided in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-21-__ of this act.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated Title 65, Chapter 21, Part 1, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section _____. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, the commission is authorized to approve competing certificates of convenience and necessity in the local telephone exchange area if such competition is found to be in the public interest. Applications for such certificates shall be in a form prescribed by the commission. The applicant shall be required to describe the proposed telecommunications services to be provided and to specify the geographic area to be served. After notice and hearing, the commission may approve an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity for local telephone service if the commission finds that the applicant is qualified to provide local telephone service by possessing sufficient technical, financial and managerial resources to operate the proposed service and such other criteria as may be defined in the rules and regulations of the commission. In determining whether competition is in the public interest, the commission shall consider whether the granting of competing certificates detrimentally impacts the continued viability of universal service and the maintenance of quality telephone service at affordable prices. In granting any certificate

AMENDMENT NO. _____

Signature of Sponsor

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 0891

House Bill No. 0695

under this section, the commission shall impose terms and conditions on any local service provider, including any existing local exchange company, regarding service quality standards and participation in the support of universal service shall be defined in the rules and regulations of the commission.

SECTION 3. The Public Service Commission shall file a monthly progress report with the state and local government committee of each house beginning July 1, 1995, until the rules authorized under the authority of this act are completed. The report shall state the progress that the commission is making in promulgating the rules authorized this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. Provided, however, the Public Service Commission may not grant a certificate of convenience and necessity to a new local service provider until the rules and regulations promulgated are effective.